

Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02
OMB-01 DOE-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 OIC-02
/169 W

-----033759 121726Z /45

P 121710Z JUN 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0741
INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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USMTN

ACTION STR
PASS AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE
STR PASS CODEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MTN, ETRD
SUBJECT: US/NZ BILATERAL, JUNE 15

REF: (A) WELLINGTON 2972, (B) STATE 135548, (C) GENEVA
7363

1. US/NEW ZEALAND BILATERAL SCHEDULED MORNING OF JUNE 15
FOR PRESENTATION BY ASST. SEC. OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
WOODFIELD OF NZ'S RECENTLY APPROVED SUPPLEMENTARY OFFER
(REFTEL A). ACCORDING TO NZ MTN DEL, THE CABINET ECONO-
MIC COMMITTEE (CEC) HAS PROVIDED WOODFIELD THE BASIS FOR
AN EXPANDED NEGOTIATING MANDATE WHICH WIDENS POSSIBILITIES
OF NZ RESPONSES TO US TARIFF AND LICENSE REQUESTS, PRO-
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VIDED ADEQUATE RECIPROCITY IS FORTHCOMING ON NZ REQUESTS,
(READ DAIRY). THE CEC IS TO MEET JUNE 13 TO PROVIDE
NEGOTIATING MANDATE FOR TOBACCO AND FRUITS. WOODFIELD
ALSO ANXIOUS TO DISCUSS PRESENT US POSITION AND ATTITUDE
TOWARDS PROPOSED DAIRY ARRANGEMENT.

2. REPORTEDLY, THE CEC ALSO CONSIDERED NEED TO PROVIDE

ASSURANCES ON THE TYPES OF ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNIQUES CONTEMPLATED FOR LIBERALIZING LICENSING SO AS TO MEET US CONCERNS THAT SUCH LIBERALIZATION WILL BE MEANINGFUL AND SECURE. WILL SEEK CLARIFICATION ON THIS KEY ISSUE. THE NZ MTN DEL STATED THAT THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS RE LICENSING ARE BEING CONSIDERED: (A) THE TRANSFER OF A LIMITED NUMBER OF ITEMS, MAINLY INDUSTRIAL, TO "EXEMPTION" CATEGORY; (B) THE TRANSFER OF A NUMBER OF DISCRETIONARY ("C") CATEGORY ITEMS TO BASIC ("L") CATEGORY; (C) PROVIDE SOME "C" CATEGORY ITEMS WITH A MINIMUM BASIC ENTITLEMENT BUT RETAIN DISCRETIONARY ELEMENT FOR AMOUNTS ABOVE THAT LEVEL, AND: (D) PROVIDE SOME "C" CATEGORY ITEMS WITH AUTOMATIC REPLACEMENT LICENSING PROVISIONS (SIMILAR TO THOSE IN EFFECT FOR AUTOMOBILES).

3. WITH RESPECT TO SOYBEAN FLOUR AND MEAL (REFTEL B), NZ MTN DEL CONFIRMED THAT EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1978, NZ WILL ELIMINATE PRIOR MINISTERIAL APPROVAL CATEGORY FOR IMPORTING UNDER REDUCED DUTY OF 11 CENTS/100 KG (EFFECTIVE SINCE JUNE 4, 1976); THUS NET EFFECT OF NZ OFFER ON THIS ITEM IS, AS REFTTEL POINTS OUT, A NET INCREASE IN DUTY FROM 11 CENTS TO 65 CENTS/100 KG WITH DUBIOUS ATTRACTION OF BINDING AT HIGHER LEVEL.

4. DRAFTED BY SWAIN. MCDONALD

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